

Through their innumerable service initiatives, they have been Goodfellow's most dedicated champions who served as the bridge between San Angelo and Goodfellow.

Through it all, Charles and JoAnne stood together, side by side and hand in hand. They transformed countless lives, not the least of which was my own. I had the pleasure of meeting the Powells when I ran for Congress in 2004, and in 2005, I hired JoAnne on as the first member of my staff. At that point, I could never have imagined the depth of the impact that Charlie and JoAnne would have on me, my family, and every member of my team over the years to come.

JoAnne is the most longstanding member of my staff, and she and Charlie have seen me through the ups and downs, all while tirelessly serving the constituents of the Concho Valley.

Within my office, JoAnne took on the responsibility of shepherding young men and women through the congressional nomination process for applying to the United States military academies, while Charles chaired the board responsible for vetting and recommending them to me for nomination.

□ 0945

Their teamwork resulted in many young men and women from my district receiving appointments to these prestigious institutions of higher learning, further extending the tradition of service to our country to future generations.

I cannot put into words the immense honor that it has been to have Charles and JoAnne as a part my family. My wife, Suzanne, and I feel tremendously lucky to have the opportunity to learn from them and to count them among our closest friends.

Colonel Powell will be greatly missed, and I take comfort knowing his legacy will continue through the people he loved and the community he was so proud to call home.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOH0).

PUBLIC APOLOGY TO THE HONORABLE
ALEXANDRIA OCASIO-CORTEZ

Mr. YOH0. Mr. Speaker, I stand before you this morning to address the strife I injected into the already-contentious Congress.

I have worked with many Members in this Chamber over the past four terms, Members on both sides of the aisle,—and each of you know that I am a man of my word. So let me take a moment to address this body.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to apologize for the abrupt manner of the conversation I had with my colleague from New York. It is true that we disagree on policies and visions for America, but that does not mean we should be disrespectful.

Having been married for 45 years, with two daughters, I am very cognizant of my language. The offensive name-calling words attributed to me by the press were never spoken to my

colleagues, and if they were construed that way, I apologize for their misunderstanding.

As my colleagues know, I am passionate about those affected by poverty. My wife, Carolyn, and I started out together at the age of 19 with nothing. We did odd jobs, and we were on food stamps. I know the face of poverty, and for a time, it was mine. That is why I know people in this country can still, with all its faults, rise up and succeed and not be encouraged to break the law.

I will commit to each of you that I will conduct myself from a place of passion and understanding that policy and political disagreement be vigorously debated with the knowledge that we approach the problems facing our Nation with the betterment of the country in mind and the people we serve.

Mr. Speaker, I cannot apologize for my passion or for loving my God, my family, and my country.

THE WAY WE TREAT ONE ANOTHER MATTERS

(Mr. HOYER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the words of the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOH0). They were appropriate because the language we use matters. The way we treat one another matters.

Mr. YOH0 needed no apology for his passion about poverty and for the downtrodden, but he ought to remember and acknowledge that the person to whom he spoke so inappropriately was one of the strongest fighters in this Congress for those with the least, those who are downtrodden, those who are forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, the apology was appropriate. I hope that Mr. YOH0 feels that apology sincerely, and I hope all of us will take a lesson to think before we speak so harshly to one another.

This country is a divided country. There are some of us who believe that our Chief Executive uses harsh language and inappropriate language directed at some of our citizens. We ought not to replicate that conduct.

The apology was appropriate. I know that our colleague, ALEXANDRIA OCASIO-CORTEZ, appreciates that apology, but let us treat one another with the respect and dignity each of us deserves not only as a Member of this body, but as a human being.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 10 a.m. today.

Accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 49 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1000

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. DINGELL) at 10 a.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: Lord our God, thank You for giving us another day.

We ask Your blessing on all the Members of the people's House during these rare days of coming together in this Chamber. The coronavirus has changed so many forms and patterns of gathering, as family, community, and here in Congress.

Send out Your spirit that those who find themselves at odds with their colleagues might continue the productive work that must be done, but which does not draw contentious attention, and address as well the issues which are pressing upon our Nation. Lord, have mercy.

Continue to bless the men and women who attend to those who are sick—the number continuing to grow throughout our country. Keep our healthcare professionals safe and inspire those who labor to find treatments and cures for this dangerous virus.

May all that is done be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 4(a) of House Resolution 967, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. TAKANO led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

SENATE SHOULD PASS THE HEROES ACT

(Mr. CICILLINE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CICILLINE. Madam Speaker, it has been more than two months since the House passed the HEROES Act. In

that time, there have been more than 50,000 new coronavirus deaths, bringing the total to more than 140,000 Americans and more than 2.5 million more cases. Yet the Senate has done nothing.

This important legislation provides much-needed relief to States and cities experiencing lost revenue, to support our heroes on the front lines.

It ensures our first responders and essential workers are entitled to hazard pay and guarantees up to \$200 billion for those who have risked their lives working during the pandemic.

It expands testing, tracing, and treatment to all Americans.

It puts money back in the pockets of struggling Americans with a second round of stimulus payments up to \$6,000 per household.

It preserves health coverage by protecting the more than 5.4 million Americans who have lost their employer-provided health insurance.

It extends the weekly \$600 Federal unemployment benefit through January, providing a vital safety net for a record number of Americans who are unemployed. Right now, that expires in just 9 days.

It helps worried families afford a safe place to live, assisting renters and homeowners with rent, mortgage, and utility payments and other housing-related costs.

I urge the Senate to pass this bill immediately.

IN SUPPORT OF THE GREAT AMERICAN OUTDOORS ACT

(Mr. GIANFORTE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the Great American Outdoors Act.

My friend, Senator DAINES, deserves a lot of credit. He has successfully advanced this historic legislation, historic because of its long-term dedication to our public lands.

People from around the world come to tour our outstanding National Parks, including millions of visitors every year to Yellowstone and Glacier. Unfortunately, too many of our parks have fallen into disrepair. This bill begins to rebuild and repair our parks.

It is also a fitting complement to our successful efforts to permanently reauthorize the Land and Water Conservation Fund. It provides dedicated funding to increase public access to public lands across Montana.

I know how important LWCF is to Montana, and I will continue working to keep public lands in public hands and increase access.

I urge my colleagues to join me today in voting for the Great American Outdoors Act.

STUDENT LOAN DEBT CRISIS

(Ms. DEAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DEAN. Madam Speaker, our student loan debt crisis predates the pandemic. We encourage high school students to attend college, to claim their education, yet too many graduates are shackled with a mountain of debt that limits their future, impedes their financial freedom, and diminishes their purchasing power. The pandemic has only worsened this problem.

During this pandemic, we owe it to a generation of debt-laden young people, veterans, and transitioning adults to take bold action, to pass meaningful debt forgiveness. Freeing up the ability to claim an education without crushing debt will be a relief to so many Americans and our economy.

An educated public should enrich us all, not create unsustainable debt. So I call upon this body to pass bold and meaningful debt forgiveness for millions of bright young people so that their futures are determined not by the debt they incurred but by the knowledge they gained.

NATIONAL FRAGILE X AWARENESS DAY

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today on National Fragile X Awareness Day to raise awareness of this genetic disorder.

Fragile X is caused by mutations in the gene known as FMR1. These mutations can result in behavioral, developmental, cognitive, and reproductive conditions, often leading to delayed development of speech and language. In the most severe cases, fragile X can cause potentially fatal neurodegenerative conditions.

Fragile X syndrome affects an estimated 100,000 Americans. But more than 1 million Americans have a variation of the fragile X mutation, meaning they either have or are at risk of developing one of the associated conditions.

This means each Member of this House, on average, represents 230 constituents living with fragile X syndrome, and countless more parents, grandparents, siblings, and caregivers love someone with fragile X.

Each person living with fragile X syndrome, and any other intellectual and developmental disability, makes our world a better place.

EXTENDING UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

(Mr. TAKANO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TAKANO. Madam Speaker, I rise today because supplemental Federal unemployment benefits expire next

week, and Republicans in the Senate refuse to extend these benefits for the American people.

Average daily expenses are weighing heavily on millions of families as our economy struggles and unemployment is at a record high, with over 17 million still unemployed.

Rent is due, bills are due, loan payments are due, but people are still out of work. Americans are fighting against financial hardships and the housing affordability crisis. Failure to extend unemployment benefits in the midst of this pandemic would be cruel and inhumane. It would cause financial ruin for millions who are already struggling.

Our communities need the additional \$600 weekly unemployment benefits. It could be the difference between getting evicted or making rent for another month.

I urge the Senate to pass the HEROES Act to extend Federal unemployment benefits. Millions of Americans are depending on it.

IN SUPPORT OF THE CITIZENS OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR

(Mr. WATKINS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WATKINS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of democracy around the world and, in particular, in Jammu and Kashmir.

The human rights violations there are already alarming. And now with COVID-19 plaguing the world, people there and everywhere must have access to the tools necessary to fight this disease.

As telecommunication blackouts, suppression of media reports, human rights abuses, and mass detentions continue in Jammu and Kashmir, COVID-19 concerns are amplified. There have already been disturbing reports that PPE and critical equipment are being blocked from entering the region.

Without adequate resources and internet access, hospitals and medical centers don't stand a chance. And lives being lost are lost to the world.

I urge the global community and actors in the region to work together to ensure that citizens of Jammu and Kashmir have access to the care, services, and resources needed to defeat this disease.

IN SUPPORT OF THE NO BAN ACT

(Mr. CARSON of Indiana asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the NO BAN Act, which I was honored to coauthor. I urge my colleagues to swiftly pass this landmark legislation today.

More than 3 years ago, President Donald Trump's Muslim ban put into action the xenophobic and racist agenda that he promised during his campaign.